

Contract and Authorization Contract:

I agree to employ Michael J. Croston, Esq. as my designated representative for a reduction of my assessed value for the 2011/2012 tax year. As designated representative, I give Michael J. Croston full authority to negotiate and/or settle my case.

In the event of a successful grievance, either through grievance or small claims, settlement or trial, I agree to pay Michael J. Croston a sum equal to 50% of the 2011/2012 property tax reduction (property tax reduction is determined by multiplying the reduction of assessed value by the tax rate), within 30 days of notification of a reduction. I also agree to pay a \$75.00 appraisal fee, if one is paid for and used by Michael J. Croston, to obtain my reduction and the small claims court fee, if a small claims case is instituted. In the event that litigation is required to collect the fee from me, court costs and reasonable attorney's fees shall be my responsibility.

In the event that the grievance is not successful at either the grievance level or at small claims court, **NO FEES SHALL BE DUE BY ME.**

I am aware that Michael J. Croston is not affiliated with the Town of Brookhaven, that I could commence an action on behalf of myself, and that I may cancel this contract within 1 week of executing it, by sending a cancellation request via certified mail.

Authorization—Designation of Representative to make complaint:

I, \_\_\_\_\_ (PRINT NAME), as complainant/petitioner (or officer thereof) hereby designate Michael J. Croston, Esq. to act as my representative in any and all proceedings before the board of the assessment review in the Town of Brookhaven and/or Small Claims assessment review of the Supreme Court for the purposes of reviewing the assessment of my real property as it appears on the 2011/2012 tentative assessment roll of the Town of Brookhaven. I have read the contract and understand my obligations.

Signature of Homeowner Date

**Eligibility: 1. a person named in the records of the Suffolk County Clerk as homeowner; or  
2. That person's authorized agent; or 3. A person who has contracted to buy a home; or  
4. The estate of a deceased homeowner, is eligible under law to receive a tax assessment reduction and a property tax refund. If you are not in one of these categories DO NOT sign this agreement, as you will not be able to receive a property tax refund.**